

Community Action Groups  
(CAG)  
Policy Recommendations presented to  
Board of Public Safety, 16 October 2019

**Use of force policy:**  
Executive Summary

- **Add a section on de-escalation to the Use of Force policy**
- **Clearly define subjective terminology, i.e. “reasonable”, “necessary”**
- **Require officers to document de-escalation strategies utilized prior to use of force**

Recommendation relative to a policy	Overall recommendation	Commentary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continuous training more than just at the Academy</li> <li>● Policy needs to use the term de-escalation</li> <li>● 21 foot rule is outdated and needs to be revamped</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Foster a relationship</li> <li>● Change Board meeting times</li> <li>● <b>Procedural Justice Training</b> ("customer service" training)</li> <li>● Critically review the "21 foot rule" which puts officers on a hair trigger</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lots of unknowns still</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Needs clear definition of “reasonable”</li> <li>● Needs clearer definition of “necessary”</li> <li>● De-escalation training at every stage and pretest before work in the field</li> <li>● Add de-escalation techniques</li> <li>● Need an unambiguous definition of reasonable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Require officers to engage or volunteer in schools and neighborhoods a few hours a month to develop relationship between community and police department</li> <li>● Mental health counseling for officers</li> <li>● Sensitivity training for mental health issues or racially-specific actors or age</li> <li>● Mandatory that police officers reside in South Bend</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Police officers need mental health counseling</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Volunteering in schools</li> <li>● Counseling to officers</li> </ul>	

